



The State of Montana operates two State Veterans Homes that provide services to residents that have nursing facility needs, including dementia or Alzheimer's.

Admission Criteria: Must be an honorably discharged veteran to be admitted to a state veteran's home.

Spouses of honorably discharged veterans may also be admitted if space is available and with a maximum of 25% of occupancy in non-veterans.

Montana Veterans Home – Columbia Falls

Facility Operation: MVH is a state owned and operated veterans nursing facility since its establishment in 1896. Facility participates in Medicaid/Medicare and the Veterans Administration payment programs.

Facility Capacity: Total of 105 beds licensed for skilled nursing care. 12 bed domiciliary unit (DOM).

Special Care Unit: 15 beds in the facility are utilized as a "secure" dementia care unit that is self-contained in that residents do not need to leave the unit for services.

This unit is called the Special Care Unit (SCU) which has:

- Own dining room, nurses station, lounge/activity areas, bathing/shower area and enclosed courtyard
- Unit hallway layout allows for a circular wandering path instead of a linear hallway (minimize pacing)
- Higher staff to resident ratio
- Quieter environment due to carpeted hallway, small size and less "through traffic" which helps keep residents from being over stimulated.

Nursing Facility: Remaining 90 facility beds have a wander guard bracelet system (auto locks doors and/or sounds alarm if door is opened) to prevent residents at risk from wandering out of the facility unsupervised.

Current Population: Currently the facility has 47 residents with a diagnosis of dementia at MVH.

The SCU remains full at 15 residents or 100% occupancy on an ongoing basis, and the remaining 32 residents with dementia are on the regular nursing units (with a wander guard bracelet if necessary).

MVH typically operates at about a 95% occupancy facility wide.

Eastern Montana Veterans Home-Glendive

Facility Operation: EMVH is a state owned veterans nursing facility which has operated under a contract arrangement since the facility opened its doors in 1995. Facility participates in Medicaid/Medicare and the Veterans Administration payment programs

Facility Capacity: Total of 80 beds licensed for skilled nursing care.

Special Care Unit: 16 beds in the facility are utilized as a "secure" dementia care unit that is self-contained in that residents do not need to leave the unit for services.

Admission to the SCU is based on the following criteria:

- Diagnosis of Dementia
- Requires 24 hour direction, assistance and/or supervision
- Resident may wander or have other behaviors that require a higher level of supervision
- The unit has its own dining room, nurses station, lounge/activity areas, bathing/shower area and enclosed courtyard
- Quieter environment due to small size and less "through traffic" which helps keep residents from being over stimulated.

Nursing Facility: Remaining 64 facility beds have a wander guard bracelet system (auto locks doors and/or sounds alarm if door is opened) to prevent residents at risk from wandering out of the facility unsupervised.

Current Population: 24 of the 60 current residents have a diagnosis of dementia

16 have dementia with behavioral disturbances (which is often the reason for admission to the EMVH facility when behaviors become difficult to manage safely in the home setting).

The SCU typically operates at 100% occupancy or 16 residents.

EMVH generally operates at about a 75-80% occupancy facility wide.